Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

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CONFIDENTIAL BUENOS AIRES 3035

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PFOR, AR, RO

SUBJ: ROMANIAN VIEW OF ECONOMIC AGREEMENTS RECENTLY SIGNED

WITH ARGENTINA

REF: STATE A-138

1. AN OFFICER OF THE ROMANIAN EMBASSY IN BUENOS AIRES WITH WHOM WE MAINTAIN FRIENDLY RELATIONS TOLD US ON APR 9 THAT ALTHOUGH ARGENTINA AND ROMANIA RECENTLYSIGNED VARIOUS ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION AGREEMENTS, PRESIDENT CEAUCESCU IS WELL AWARE OF THE UNSTABLE ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL SITUATION IN ARGENTINA AT PRESENT AND, AS A RESULT, ROMANIA DOES NOT PLAN TO RUSH INTO COOPERATIVE PROGRAMS WITH ARGENTINA REQUIRING ANY LARGE SUMS OF MONEY. HE SAID THAT ROMANIA WOULD TAKE ITS TIME AND BE VERY CAREFUL ABOUT STUDYING THE PROPOSALS WHICH CALL FOR INVESTING IN ARGENTINE MIXED-CAPITAL ENTERPRISES.

2. SOURCE INSISTED THAT ROMANIA DOES NOT HAVE THE AMOUNT OF MONEY NECESSARY TO JUMP HASTILY INTO A BROAD INVESTMENT PROGRAM IN ARGENTINA, EVEN IF IT WERE POLITICALLY AGREEABLE TO DO SO. HE COMMENTED THAT ROMANIA VIEWS THE VARIOUS AGREEMENT S RECENTLY SIGNED AS POTENTIALLY SHORT-TERM ECONOMIC OR POLITICAL GAINS BENEFITING ARGENTINA MORE CONFIDENTIAL

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THAN ROMANIA. AS A CASE IN POINT, HE MENTIONED THAT THE AGRICULTURAL AGREEMENT, IF IT WORKS OUT AS EXPECTED,

WILL BEGIN WITH TECHNICAL STUDIES CONCERNING GENERATING NEW OR EXPANDING PREVIOUS PRODUCTIVE AREAS. THOSE AREAS WILL BE SMALL TEST CASES IN THE BEGINNING AND EXPANDED LATER IF JUSTIFIED. MOST IMPORTANT TO ROMANIA IN THIS RESPECT, IF THE EXPERIMENT IS SUCCESSFUL, ROMANIA WILL ENJOY AN ALTERNATIVE SOURCE FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE, INCLUDING FOODSTUFFS, WHICH WILL INCREASE ROMANIA'S INDEPENDENCE. SHOULD "INCONVENIENCES" ARISE IN THE FUTURE IN EASTERN EUROPE, ROMANIA WOULD HAVE ASSURED SUPPLIES FROM ARGENTINA.

NOTE BY OC/T: REFTEL INCORRECT. CORRECT REF NOT IDENTIFIED.

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